



Read it yourself with Ladybird

# Minibeasts



Level  
**3**









# Note to parents, carers and teachers

*Read it yourself* is a series of modern stories, favourite characters, traditional tales and first reference books written in a simple way for children who are learning to read. The books can be read independently or as part of a guided reading session.

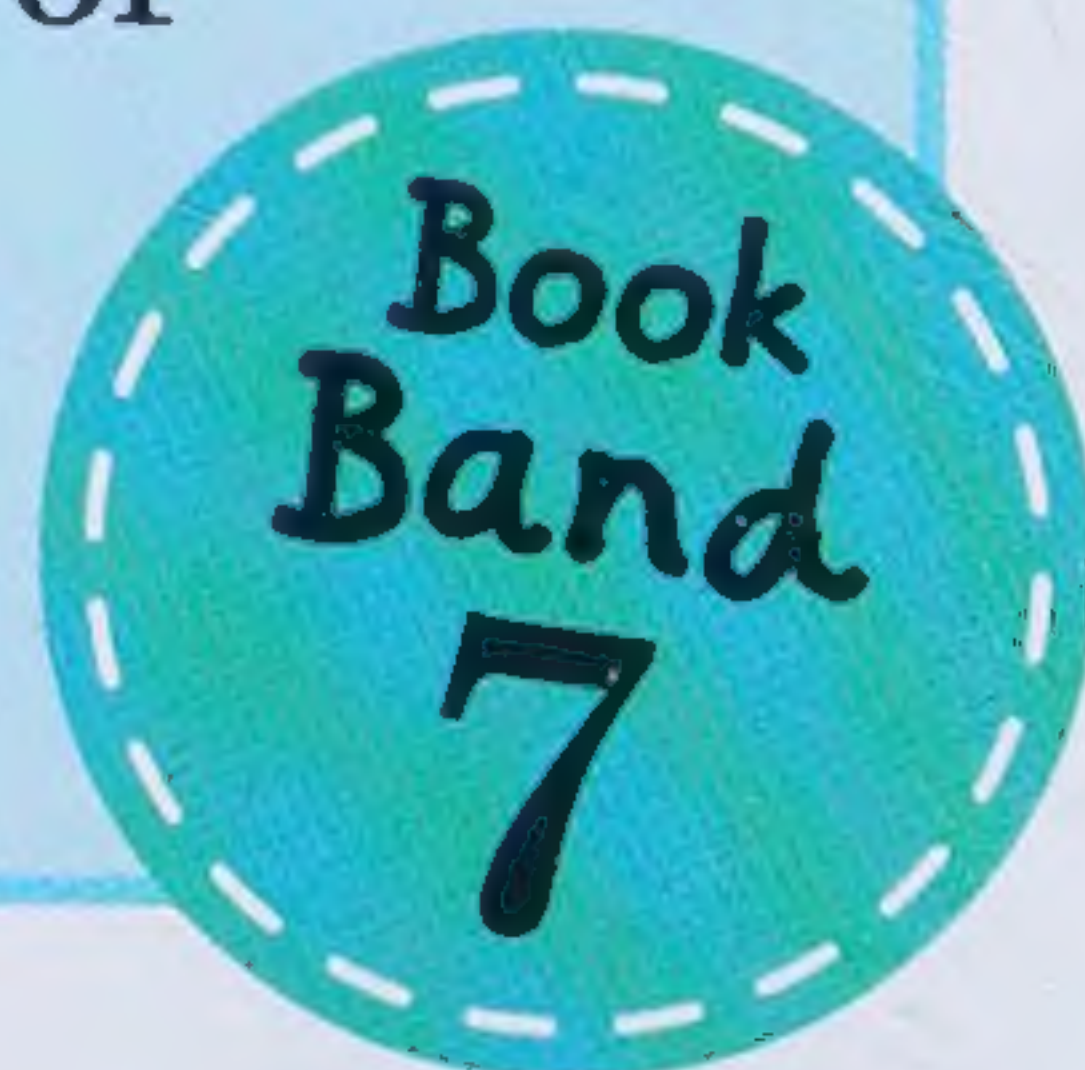
Each book is carefully structured to include many high-frequency words vital for first reading. The sentences on each page are supported closely by pictures to help with understanding, and to offer lively details to talk about.

The books are graded into four levels that progressively introduce wider vocabulary and longer text as a reader's ability and confidence grows.

## Ideas for use

- Ask how your child would like to approach reading at this stage. Would he prefer to hear you read the book first, or would he like to read the words to you and see how he gets on?
- Help him to sound out any words he does not know.
- Developing readers can be concentrating so hard on the words that they sometimes don't fully grasp the meaning of what they're reading. Answering the quiz questions at the end of the book will help with understanding.

For more information and advice on *Read it yourself* and book banding, visit [www.ladybird.com/readityourself](http://www.ladybird.com/readityourself)





**Level 3** is ideal for children who are developing reading confidence and stamina, and who are eager to read longer books with a wider vocabulary.

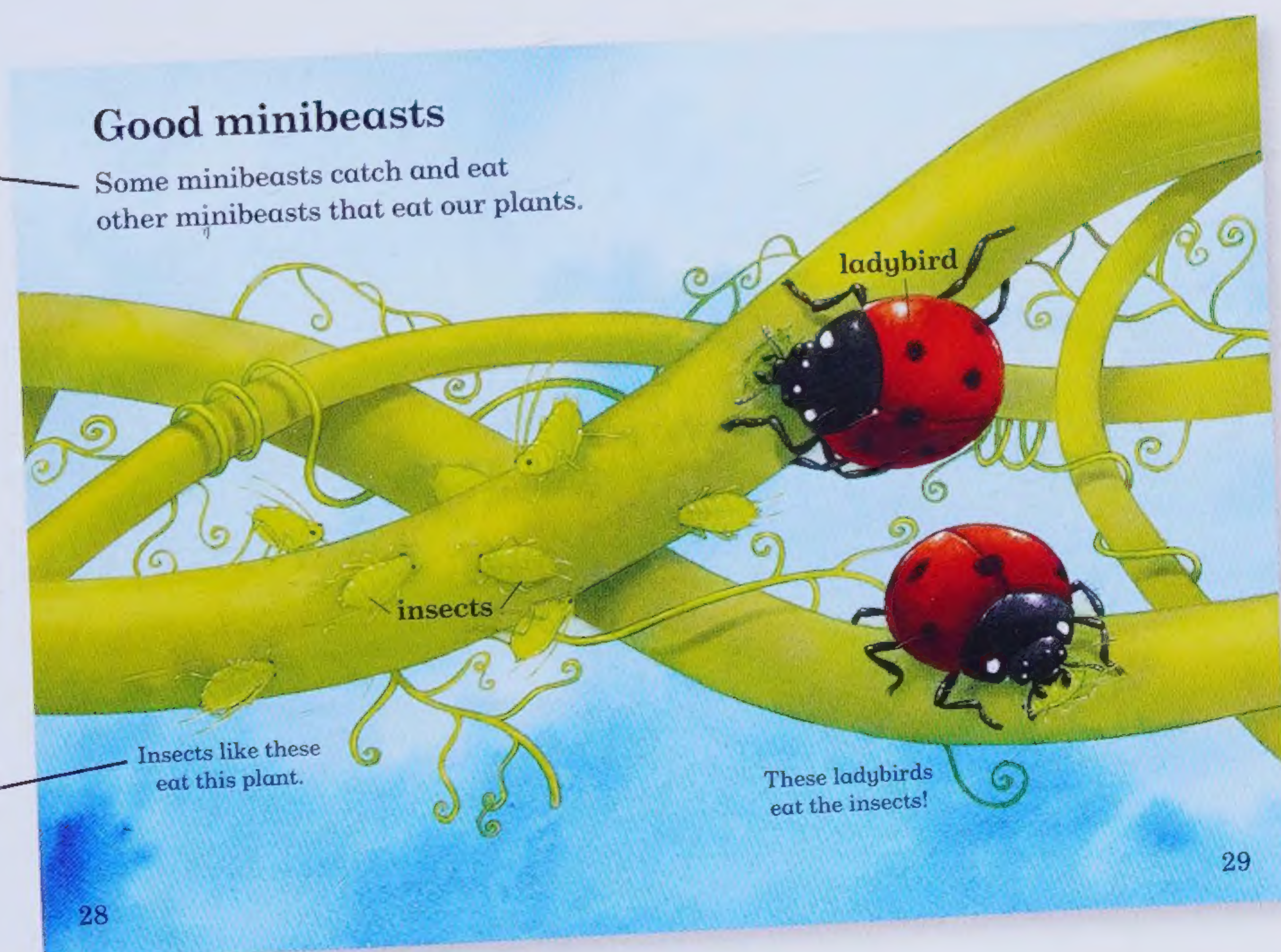
## Special features:

Detailed pictures for added interest and discussion

Wider vocabulary, reinforced through repetition



Longer sentences



Captions and labels clarify information



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**Subject Consultant: Dr Kim Dennis-Bryan**

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# Minibeasts



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Illustrated by Daniel Howarth





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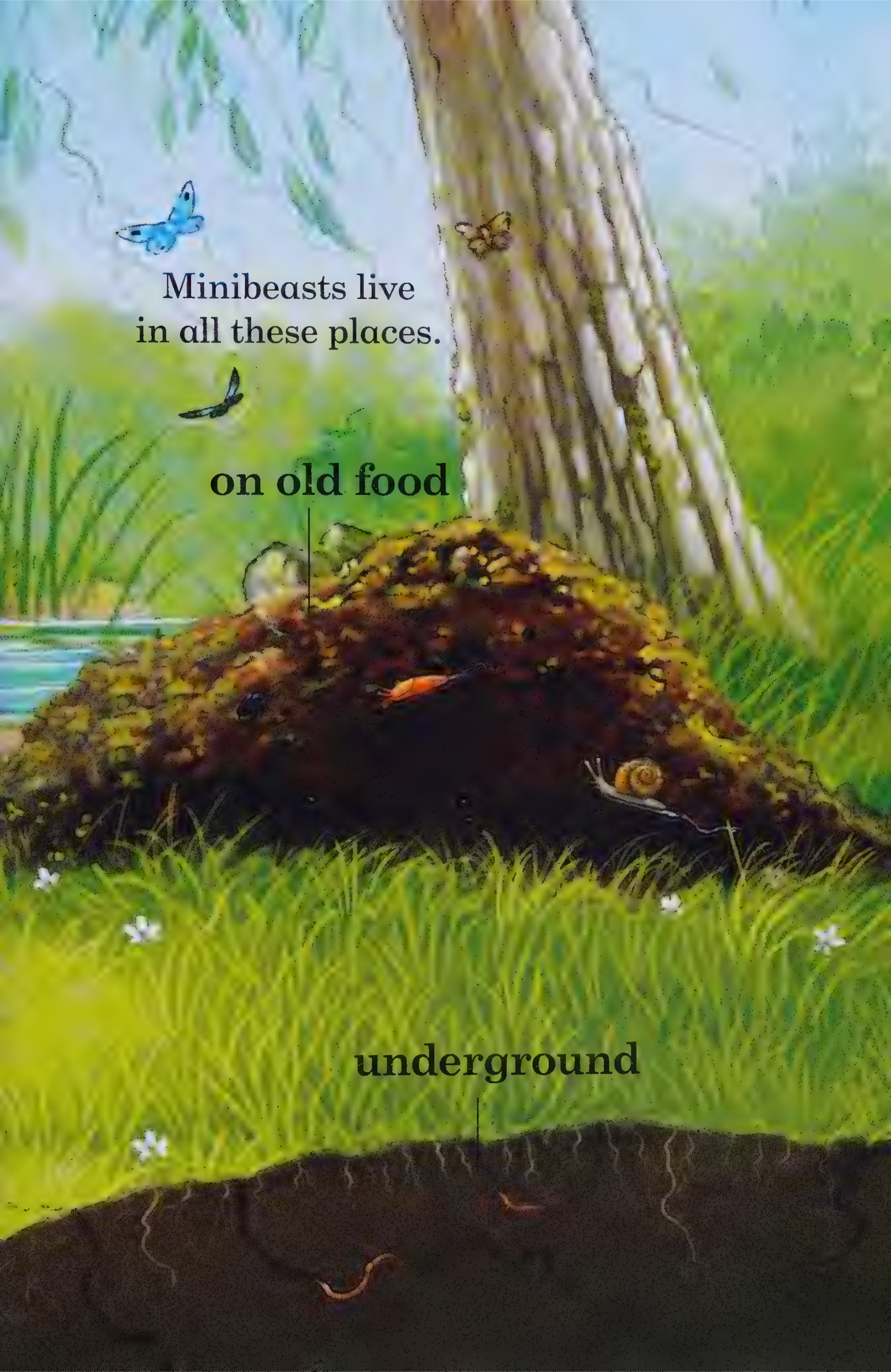
# Minibeasts are little

Minibeasts are very little creatures.  
They live in many different places.

on plants

in a pond





Minibeasts live  
in all these places.

**on old food**

**underground**



# Insects are minibeasts

Insects are minibeasts that have six legs. There are many different kinds of insect.



ant



ladybird



bee





butterfly



water boatman



# Other minibeasts

Not all minibeasts have six legs like insects do. Minibeasts can have different kinds of bodies.



centipede





spider



snail

How many legs does the spider have?



# Flying minibeasts

Some minibeasts are good at flying.

A detailed illustration of a dragonfly with a blue and black segmented body and large, transparent wings, flying over a body of water. In the background, there are green reeds and small pink and blue flowers. The word 'dragonfly' is written in a bold, black, serif font, with a thin black line pointing from the text to the dragonfly's head.

dragonfly

A dragonfly's big wings  
are good for flying.





butterfly



ladybird

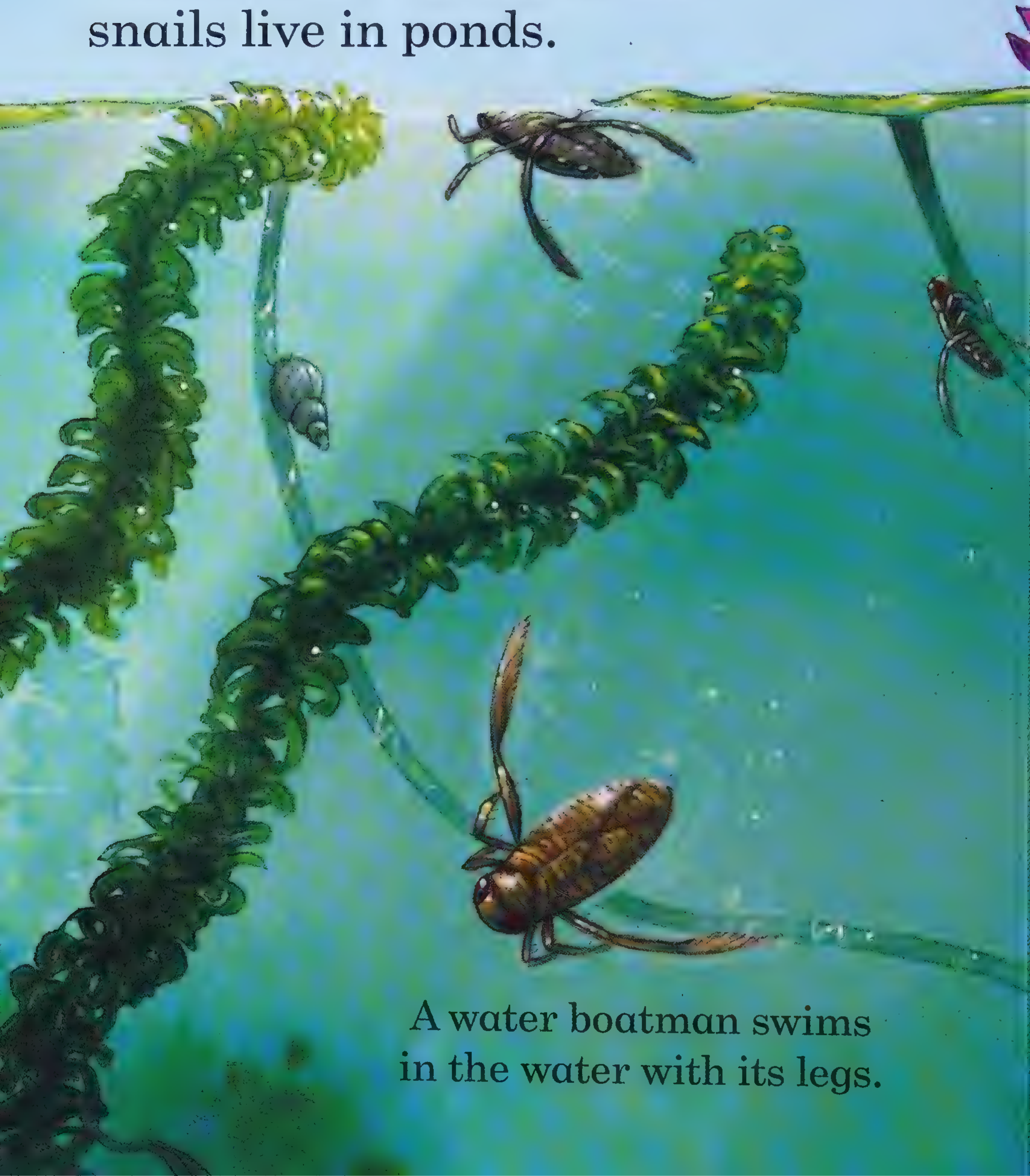
Ladybirds' wings come  
out when they are flying.



# Water minibeasts

Some minibeasts can live  
and swim in water.

Water boatmen and pond  
snails live in ponds.



A water boatman swims  
in the water with its legs.





water  
boatman

pond  
snail



# Under the ground

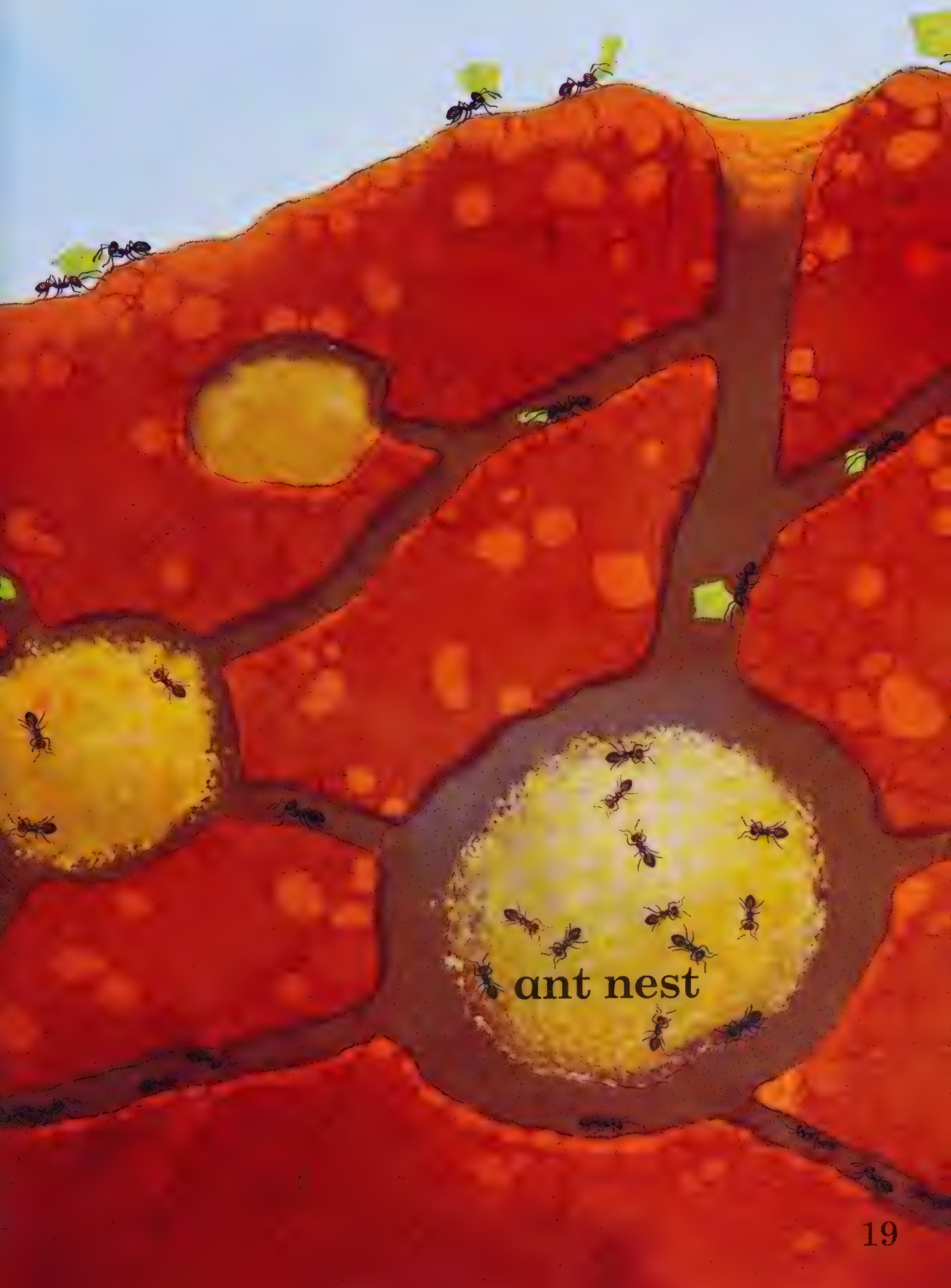
Some minibeasts live under the ground in nests. Many ants live in nests that they dig underground, but they come out to get food.



Some ants dig very big nests.



Look how big this nest is!



ant nest



# Snails

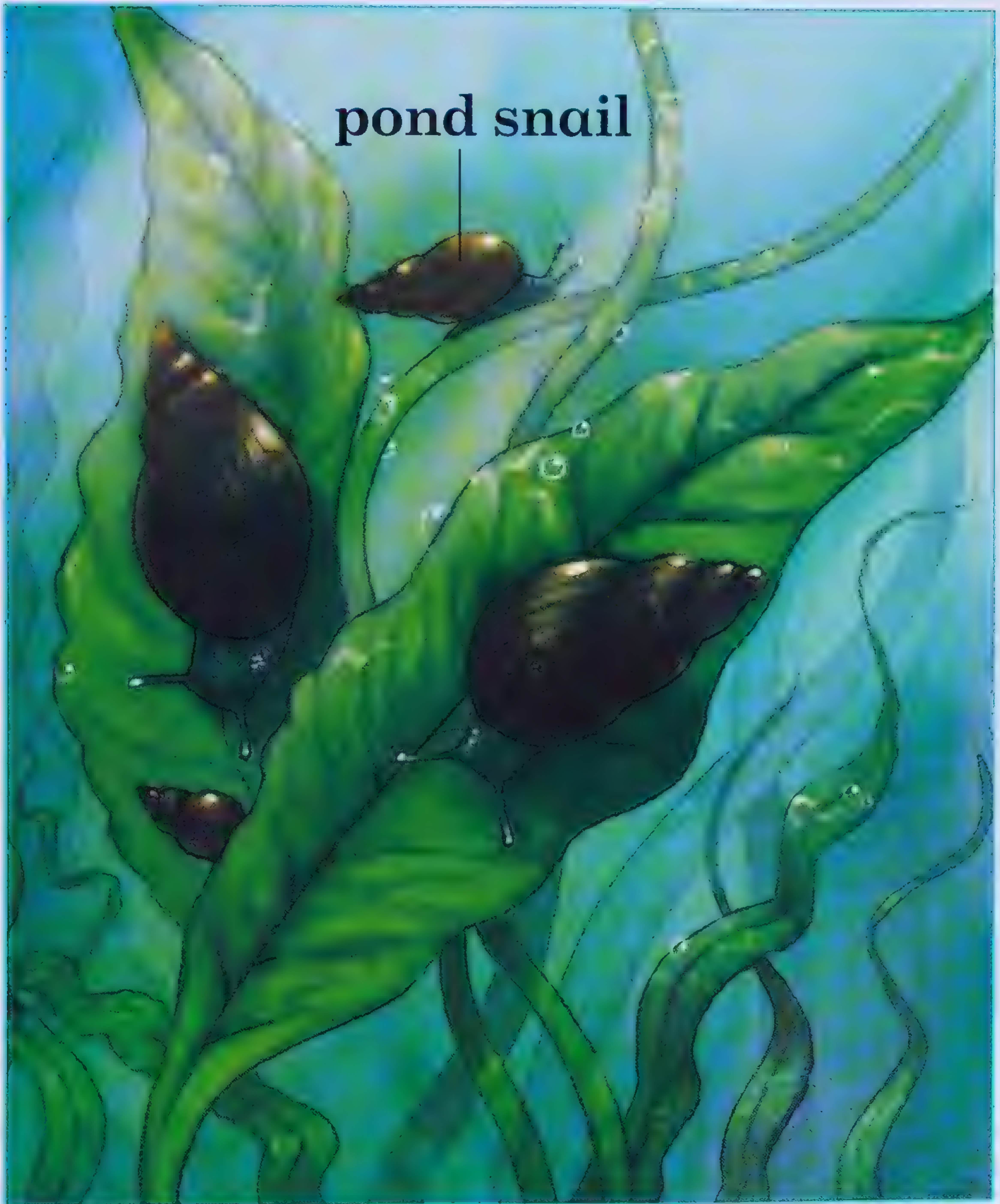
Minibeasts eat many different things. Snails eat plants.



Some snails live in gardens.



Some snails live in ponds.



Pond snails eat plants in the water.



# Minibeasts clear up!

Some minibeasts eat old food, and other old things too. They help clear up our gardens.



Some minibeasts help clear up our food!





old food —



# Centipedes

Some minibeasts catch and eat their food. Centipedes eat many kinds of other little creatures.

spider





A colorful illustration of a garden scene. In the foreground, a large red centipede with many pairs of legs is crawling on a green leaf. In the background, another red centipede is visible, and two small red ants are on a yellow flower. The scene is set in a garden with green leaves and a blue sky.

centipede

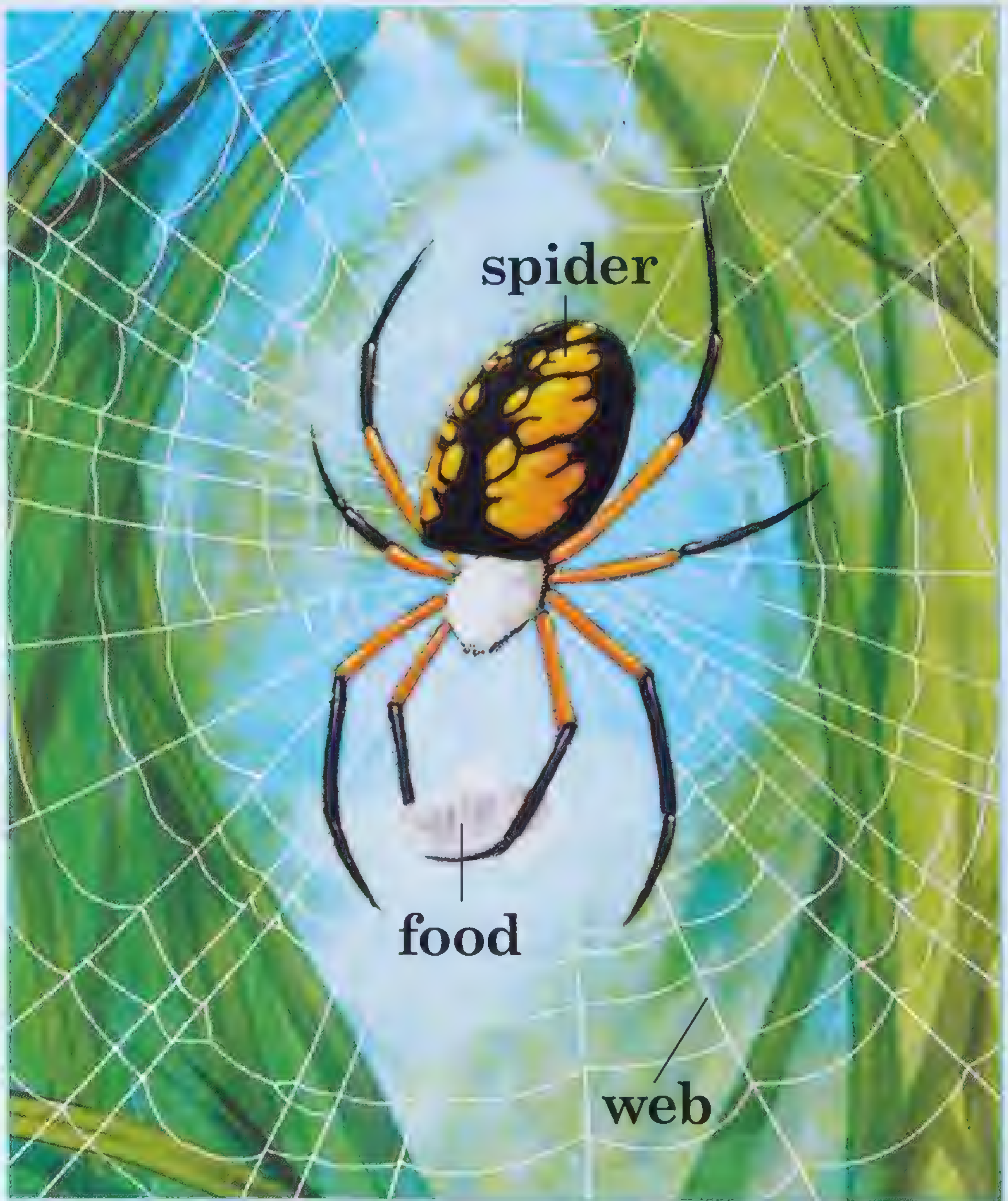
ant

Centipedes catch and eat other minibeasts, like ants and spiders.



# Spiders

Some spiders make webs to catch other minibeasts.



Spiders can make webs to catch their food.



Other spiders can run fast to catch food.

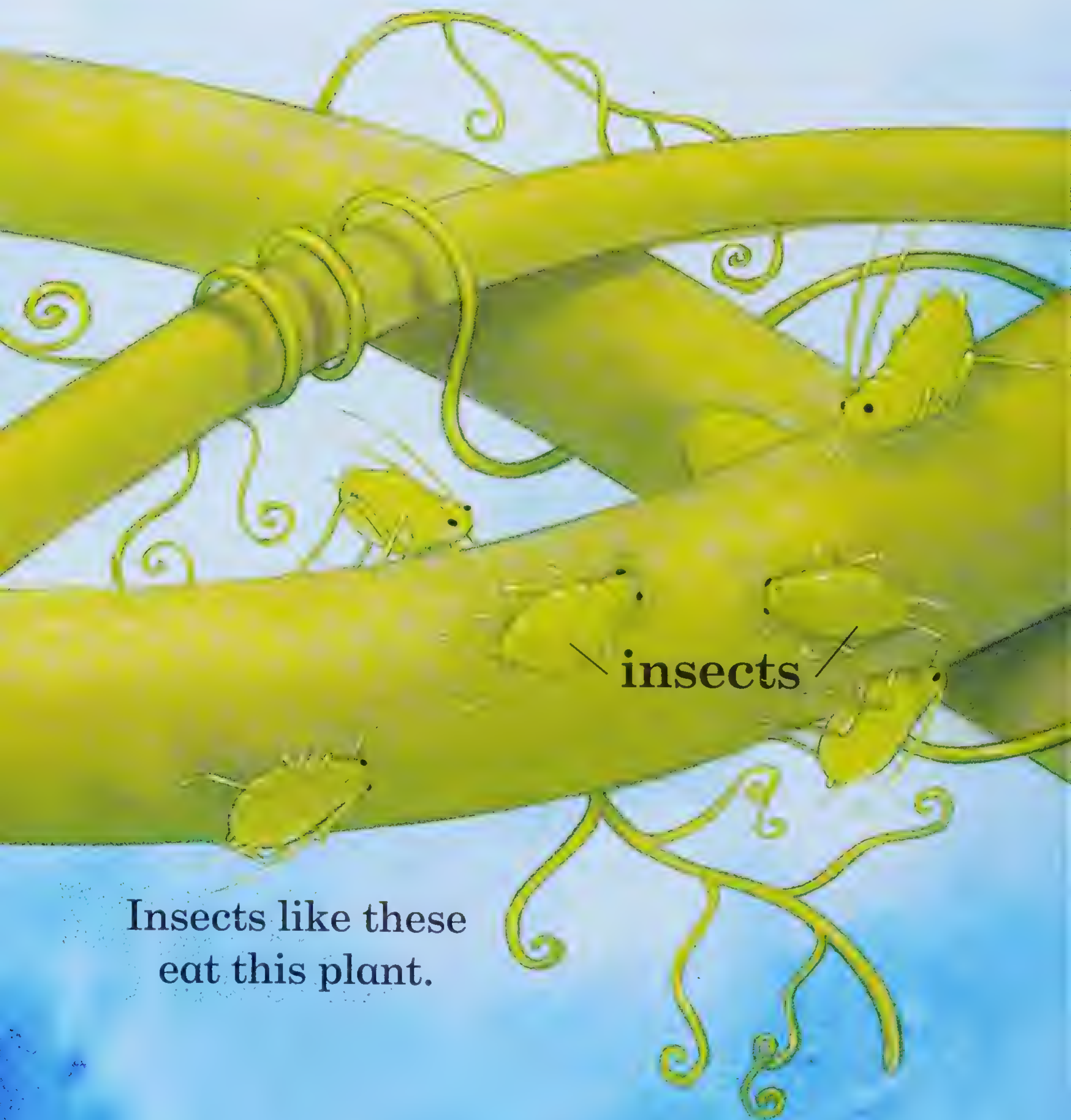


This tarantula runs fast to catch food.



# Good minibeasts

Some minibeasts catch and eat other minibeasts that eat our plants.



Insects like these  
eat this plant.



A vibrant illustration of two ladybirds on a thick, green, curved vine. The ladybird at the top is shown from a side profile, facing left. It has a bright red elytra with several black spots and a black head with white spots. The ladybird at the bottom is shown from a top-down perspective, facing the viewer. It also has a red body with black spots and a black head with white spots. The vine is thick and green, with several thin, curly tendrils extending from it. The background is a light blue sky with soft, white clouds.

ladybird

These ladybirds  
eat the insects!



# Bees help

Some minibeasts help plants grow fruits.



1 The bee is on this flower to get food.



2 The pollen can get on the bee.





3 Bees take pollen to other flowers.  
The pollen helps flowers to make fruits.



# Little minibeasts

Minibeasts come out of eggs.  
Some minibeasts look much like  
the adults when they come out.



1 First, it is an egg.



2 Then, it is a little spider.



They have to grow, but their bodies do not change very much.



3 Then, it is an adult spider.



# Egg to butterfly

Butterflies come out of eggs, but they are caterpillars first. Then the caterpillars change into butterflies!



1 An egg



2 A larva



A butterfly larva is called a caterpillar.





3 A caterpillar changes to a chrysalis.



4 An adult butterfly comes out of the chrysalis!



# Bees

Like a butterfly, a bee is first an egg, and then a larva.



1 An egg



2 A larva



3 The larva changes to an adult





Adult bees live in a nest.



# Minibeasts we don't like

Do you love minibeasts? There are some minibeasts we don't like.

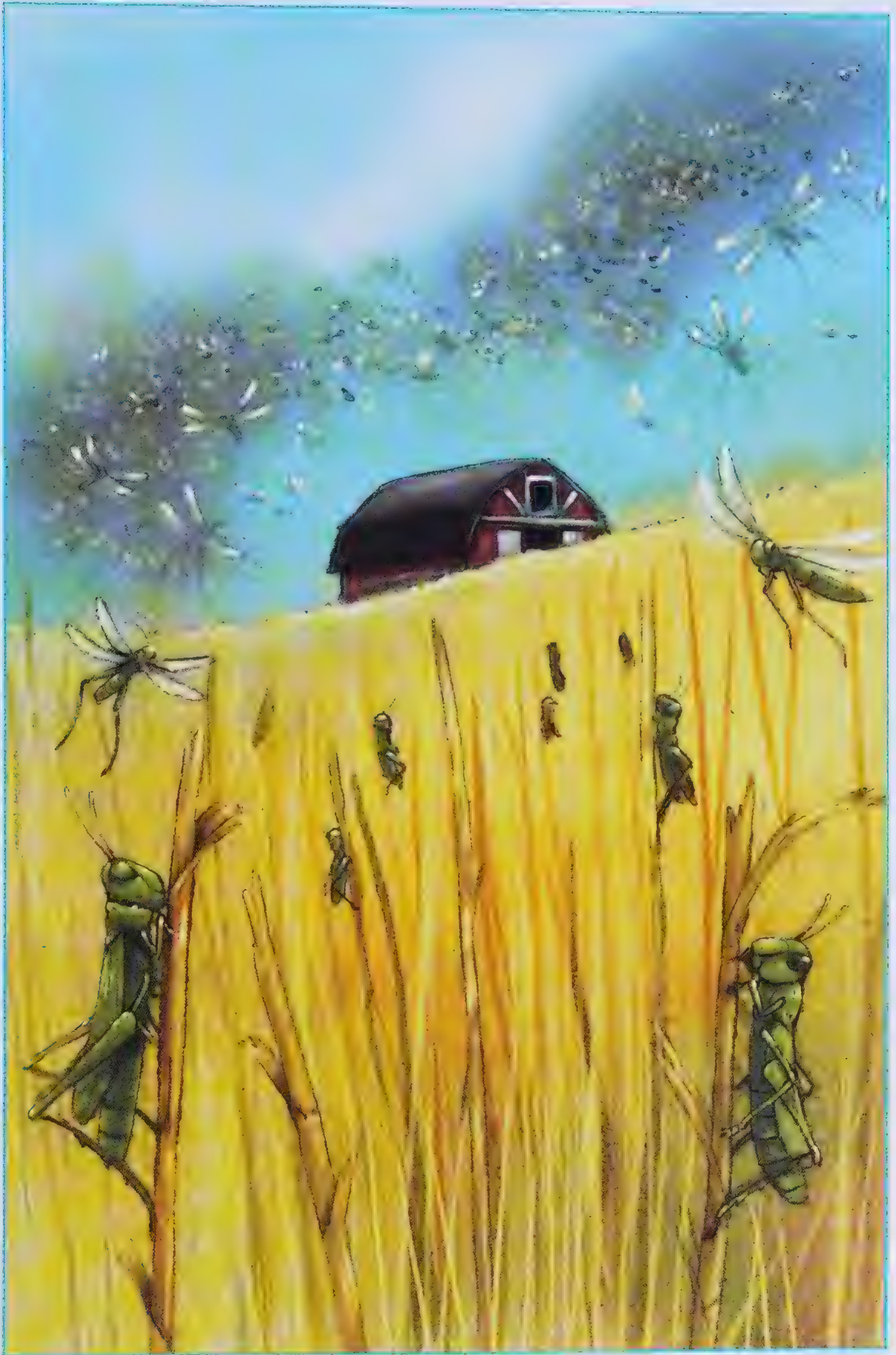


Some minibeasts can sting.



Some minibeasts can get germs on our food.





Some minibeasts eat our food.



# Minibeasts we love

But there are some minibeasts we love because they help us.

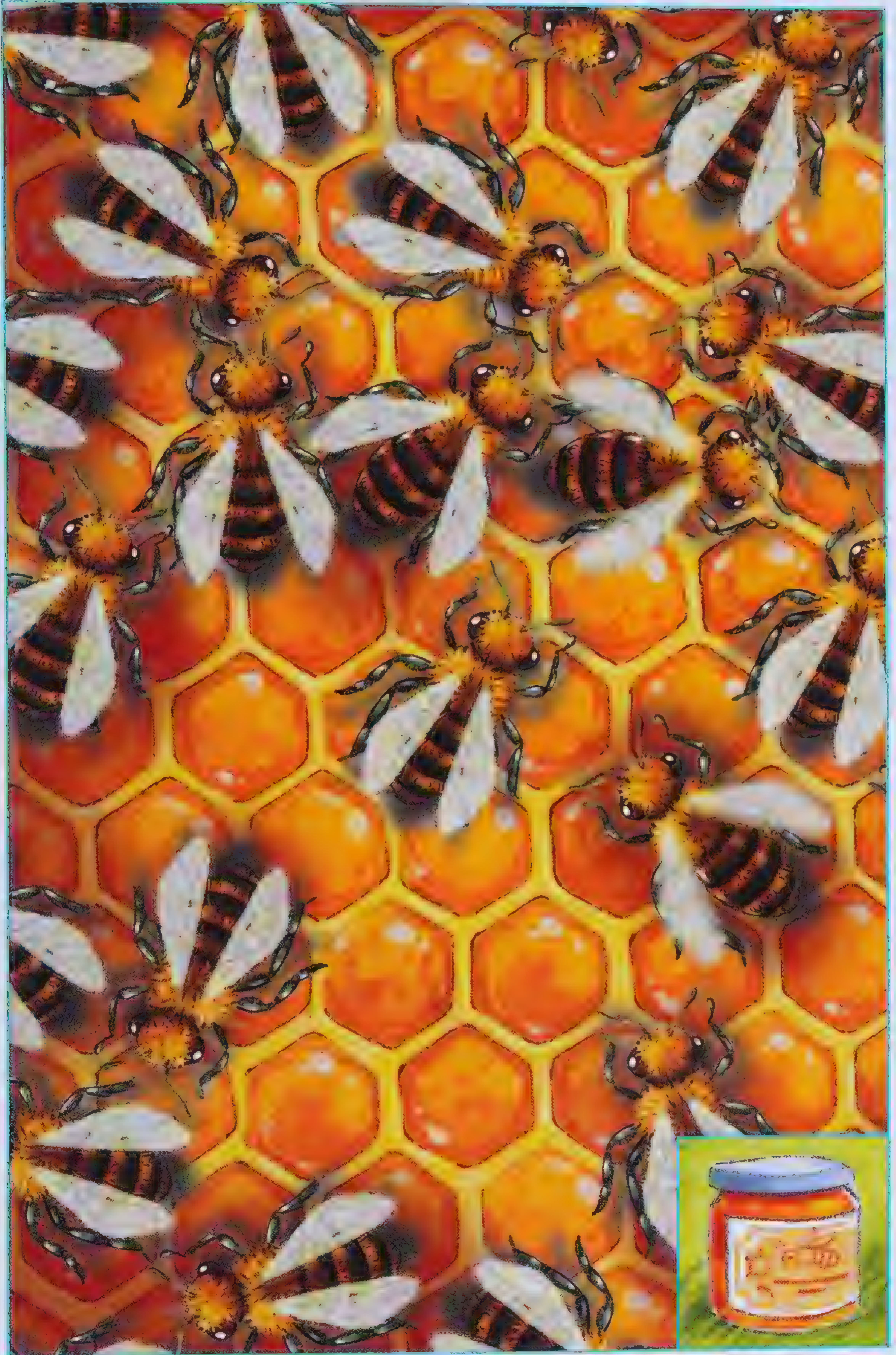


Some minibeasts eat insects we don't like.



Some minibeasts can clear up our food.





Some minibeasts make food.



# Looking at minibeasts

You can catch minibeasts to look at them, but you must put them back.

Don't catch minibeasts that sting!



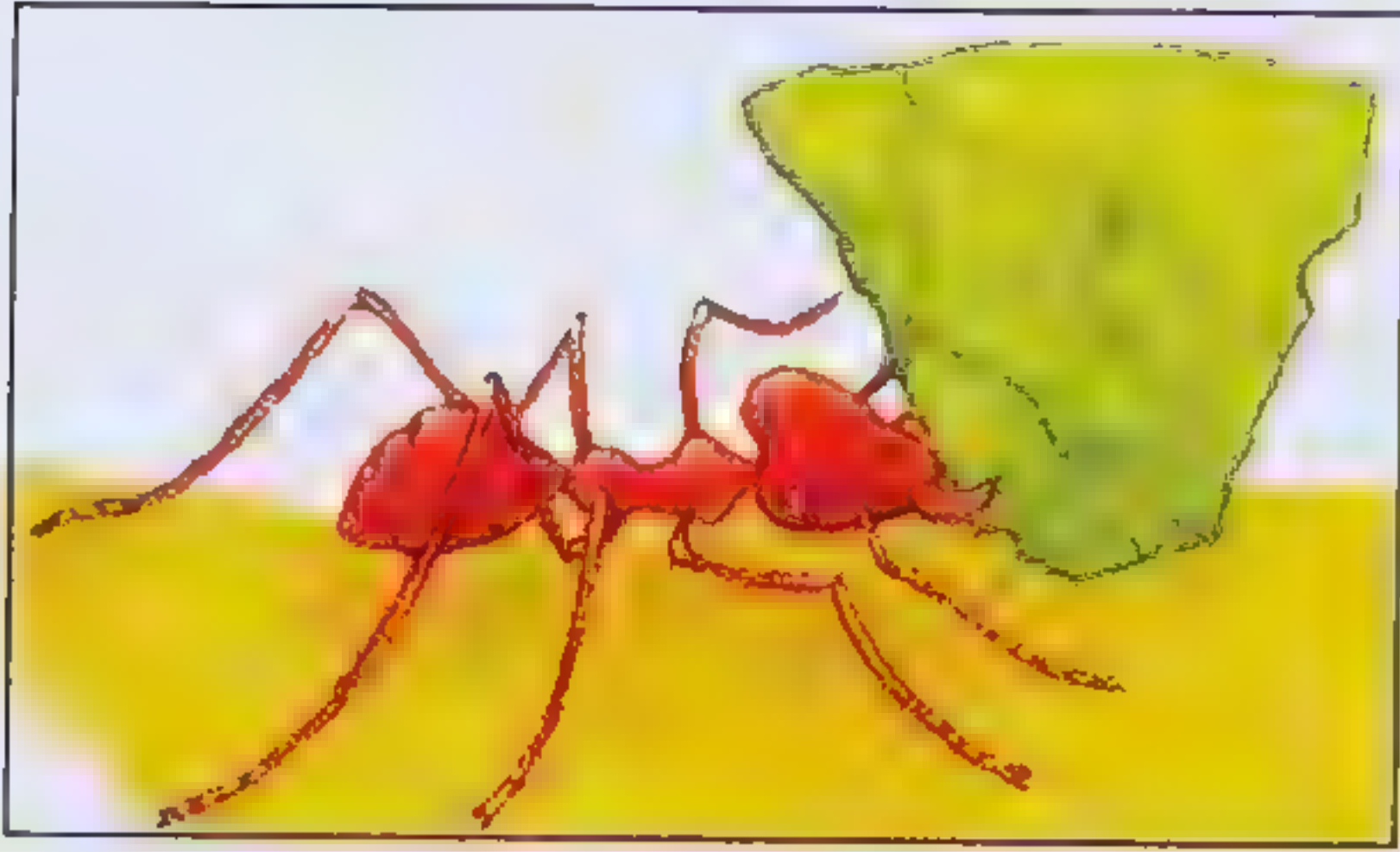




It is good to catch different kinds  
of minibeasts and look at them.



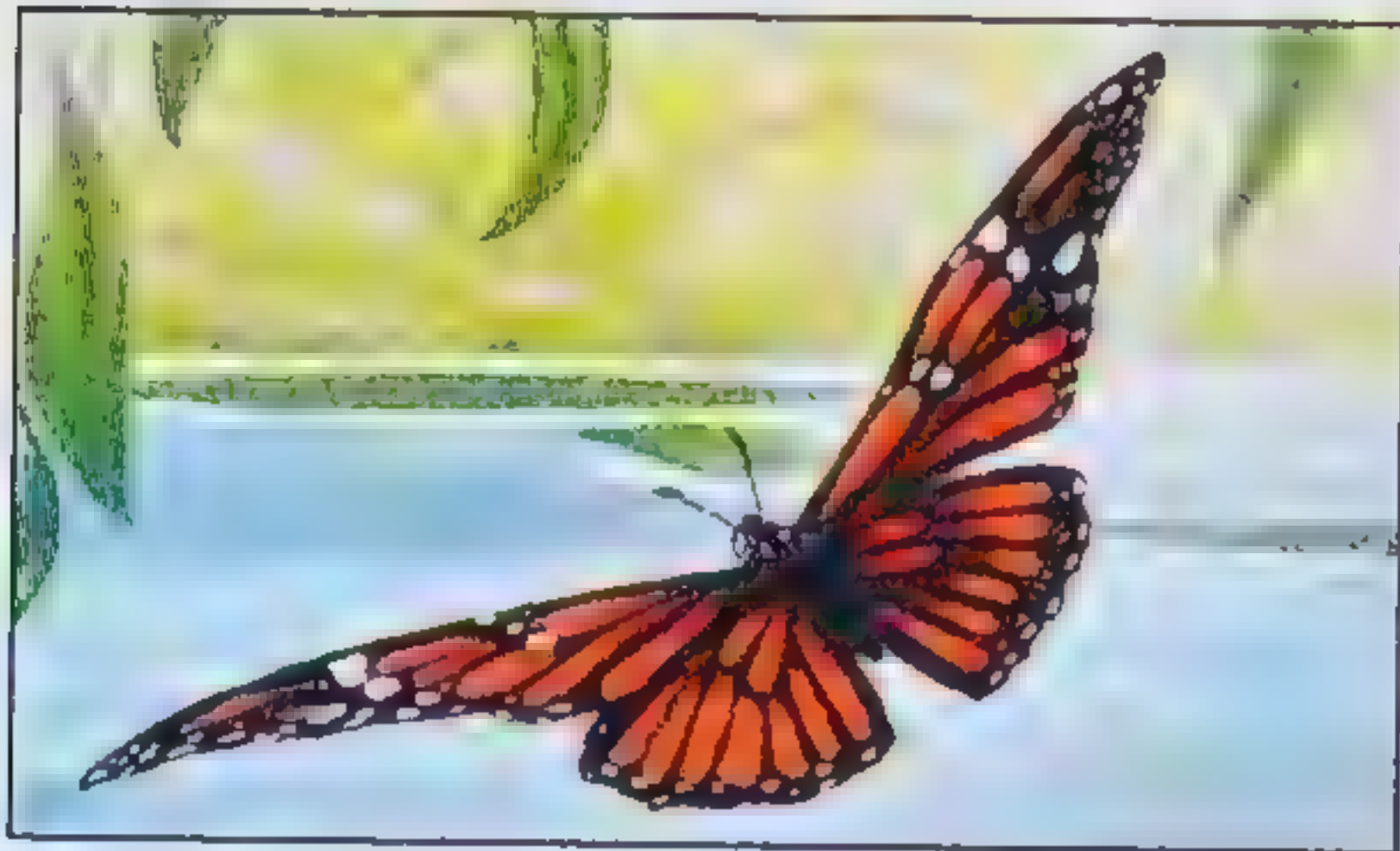
# Picture glossary



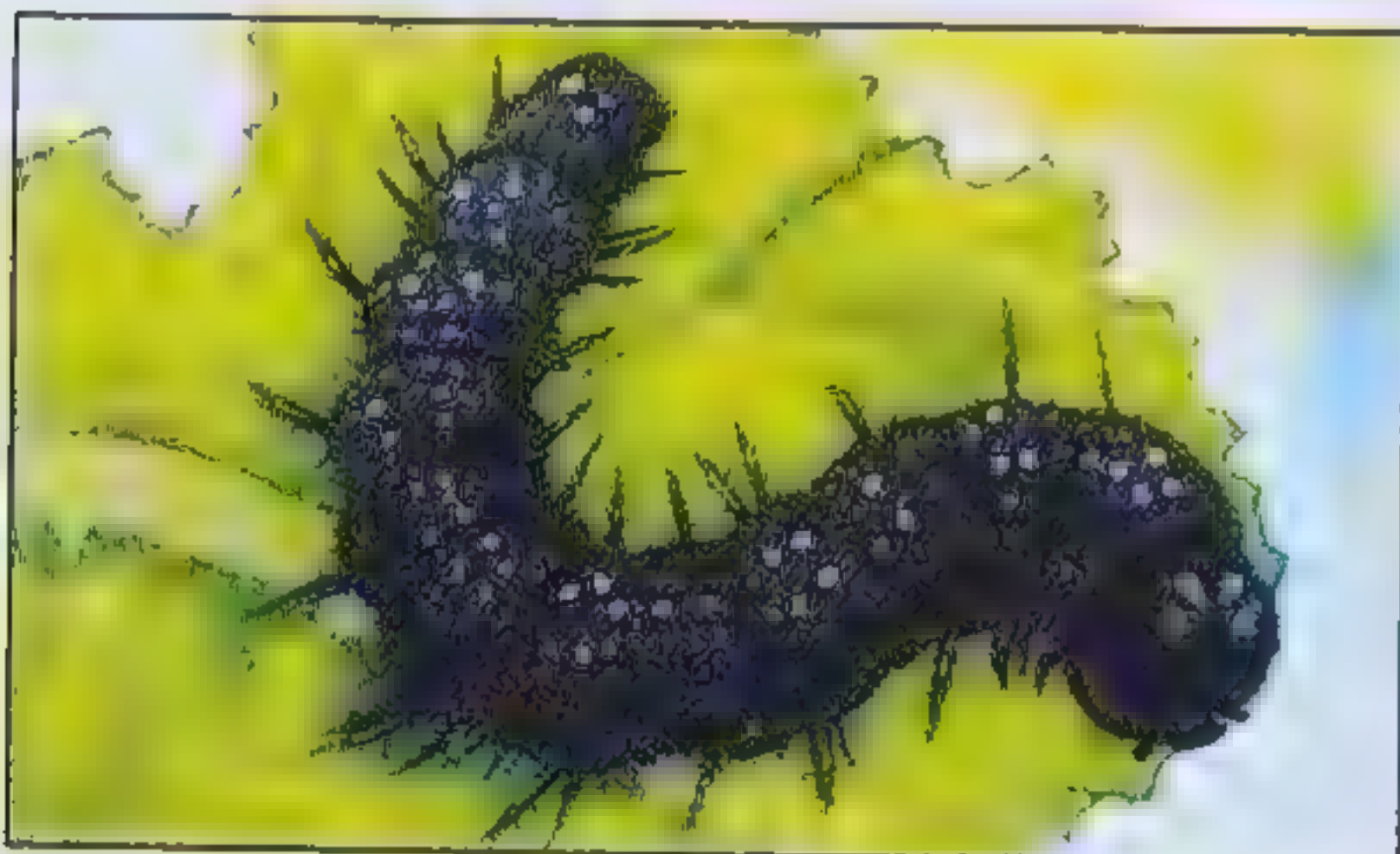
ant



bee



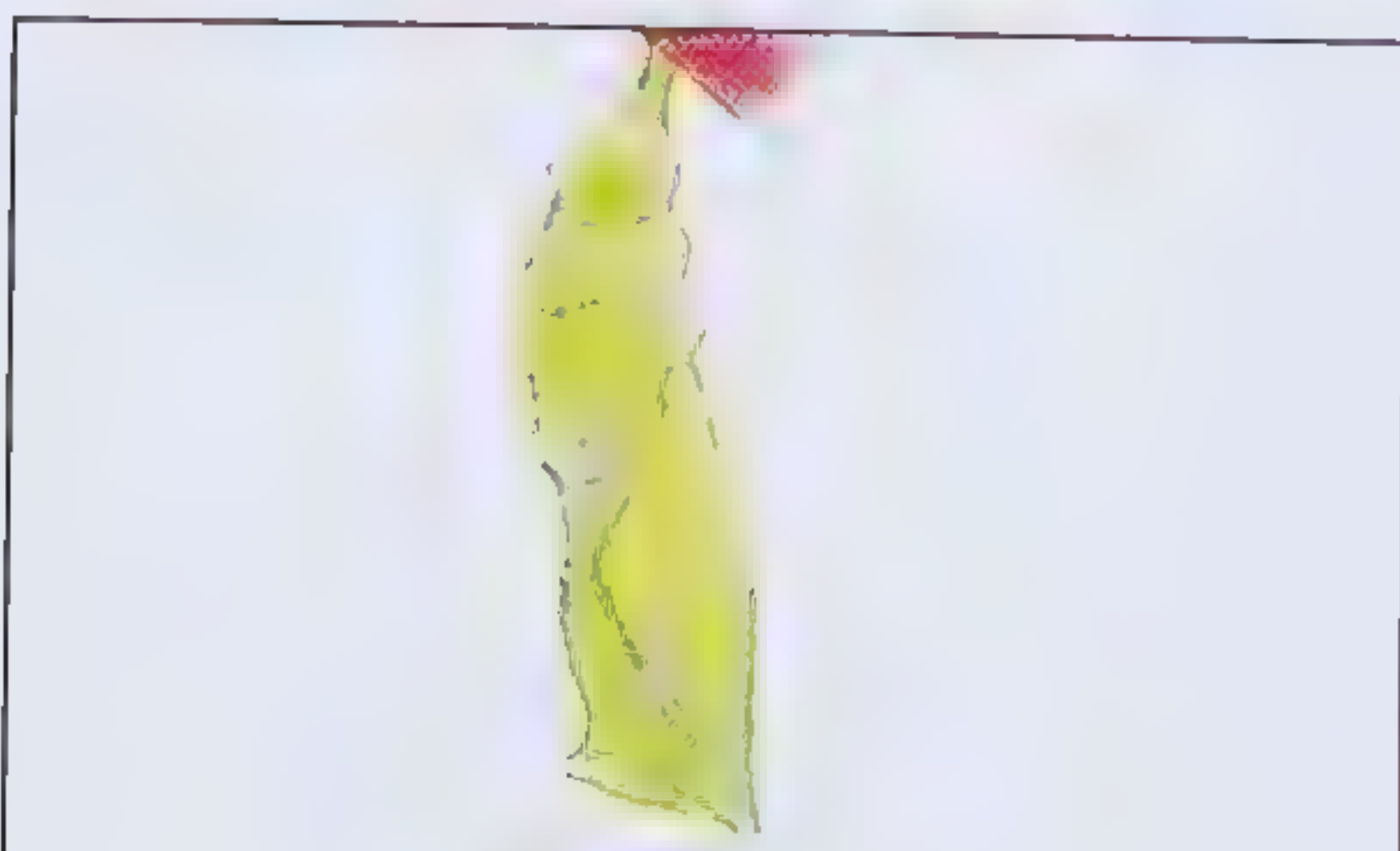
butterfly



caterpillar

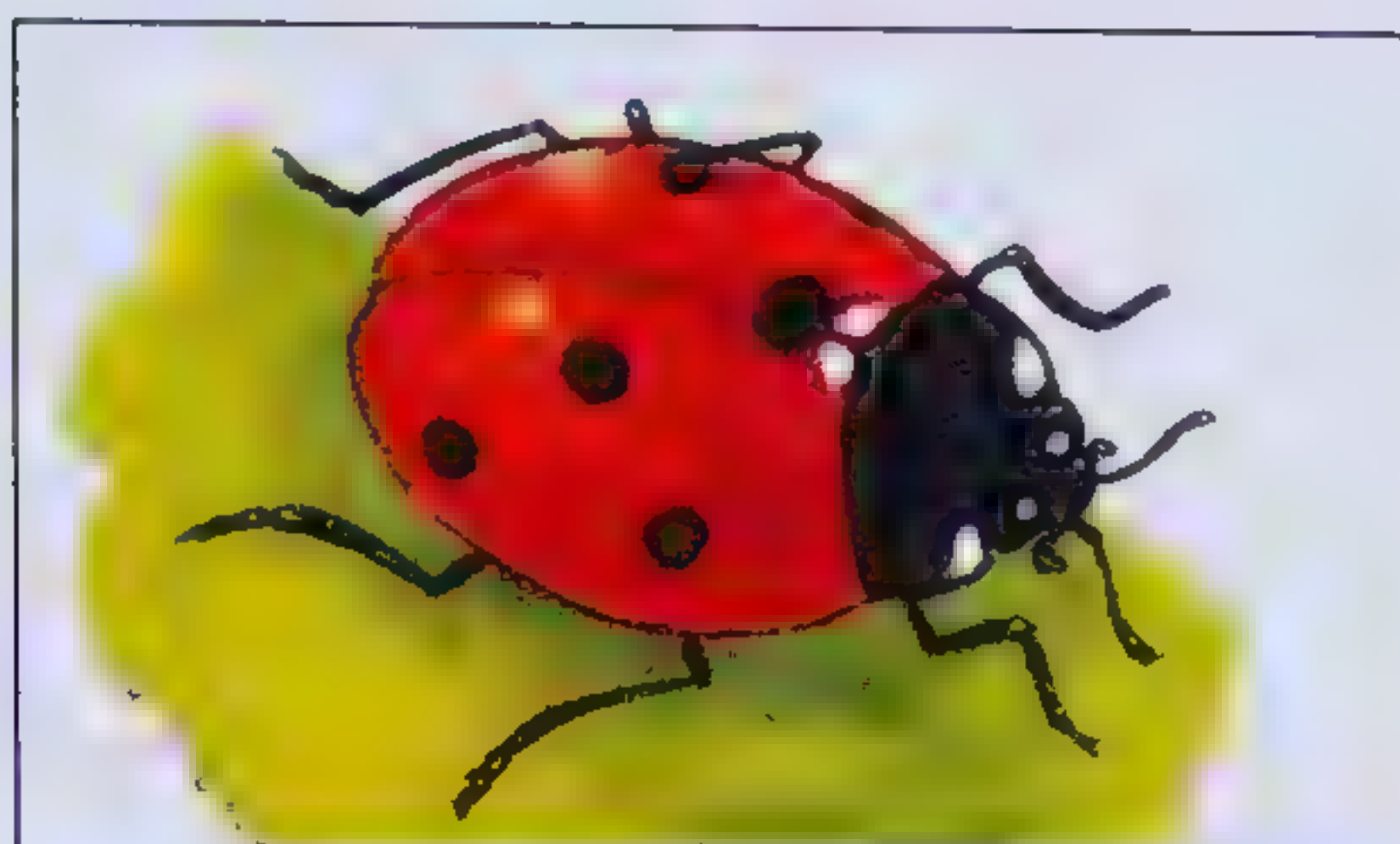


centipede



chrysalis





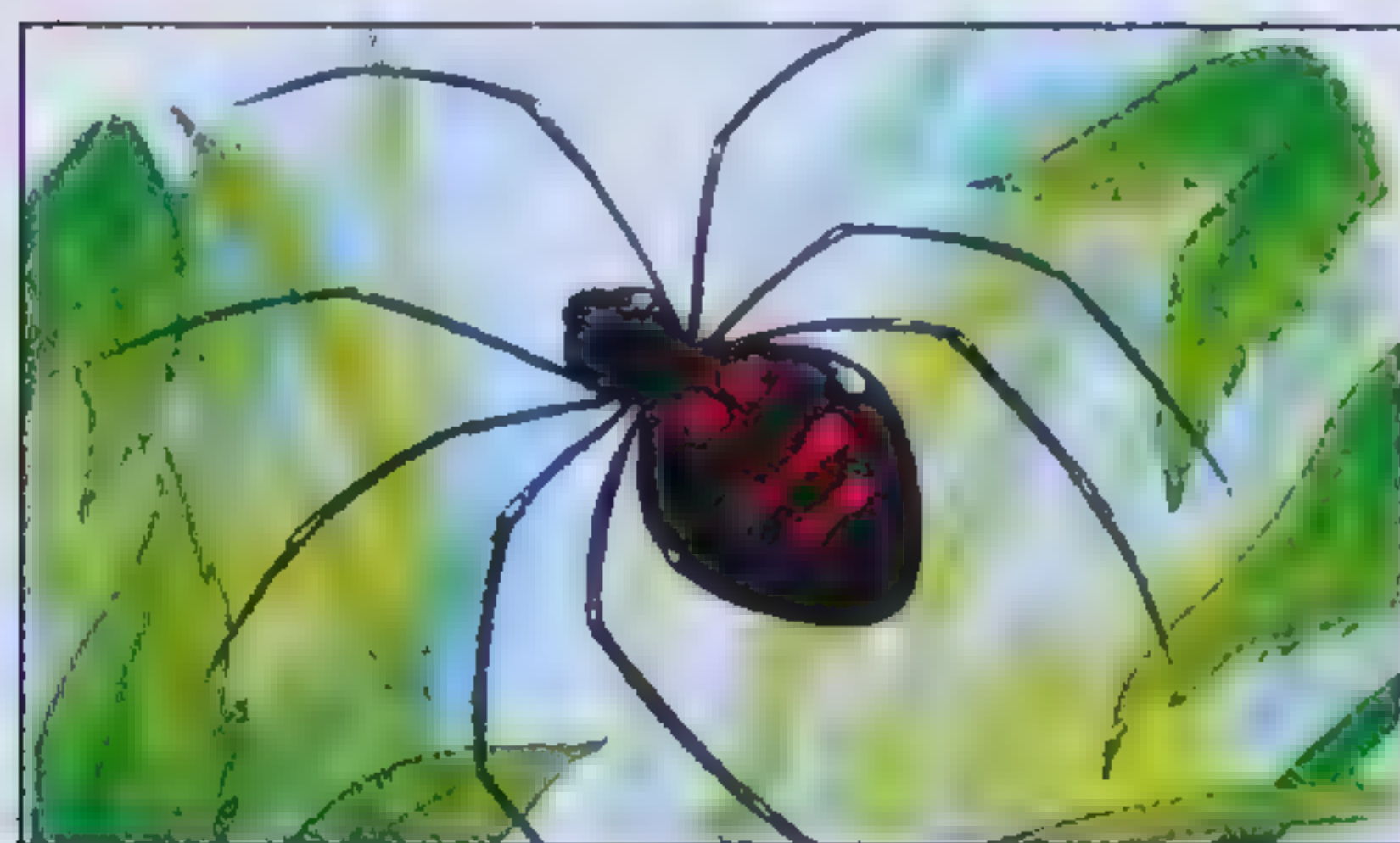
ladybird



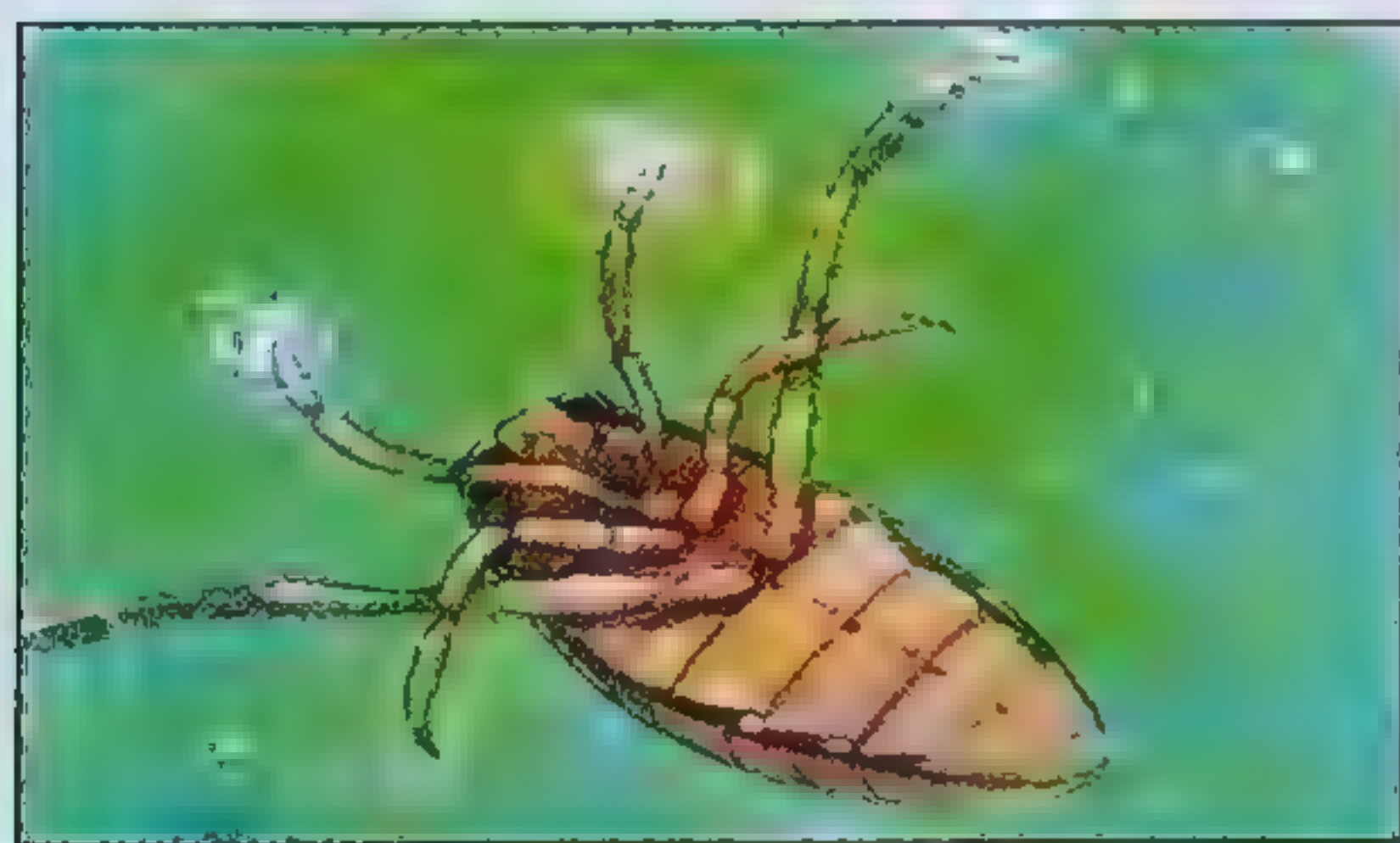
larva



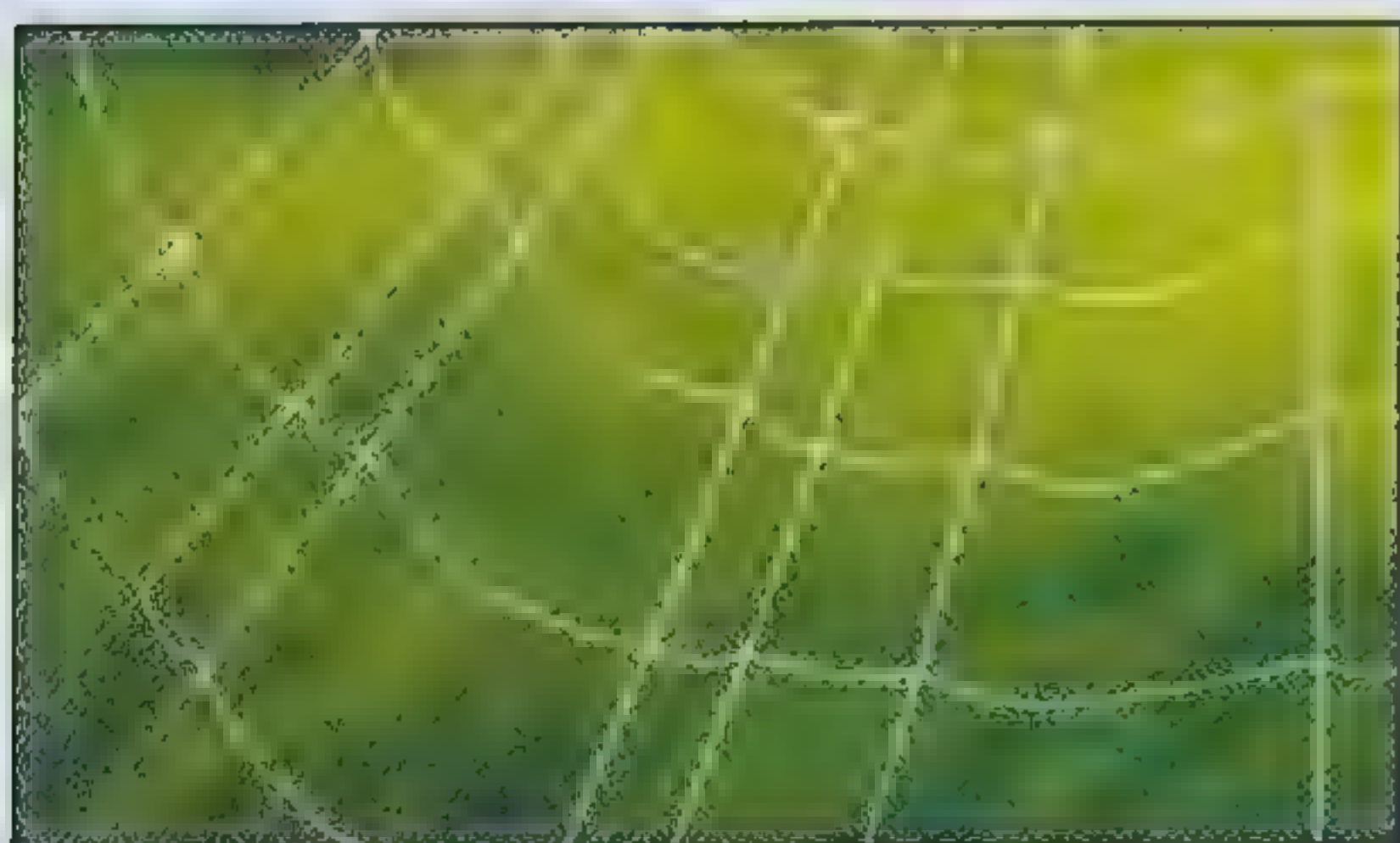
snail



spider



water boatman



web



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# Minibeasts quiz

What have you learnt about minibeasts?  
Answer these questions and find out!

- How many legs do insects have?
- Where does a water boatman live?
- Which minibeasts make webs?
- How do some minibeasts help us?
- What does a caterpillar turn into?







[www.ladybird.com](http://www.ladybird.com)









# Read it yourself with Ladybird

What do spiders eat? How do bees help us? Why don't we like flies? Find out this and much more about minibeasts.

Read it yourself is a series of character stories, traditional tales and first reference books for children who are learning to read.

## Level 1

For children who are ready to take their first steps in reading

## Level 2

For beginner readers who can read short, simple sentences with help.

For more confident readers who can read simple stories with help.

Level  
**3**

## Level 4

Longer stories for more independent, fluent readers.



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